

Meshomasic Hiking Club Fall 2017 Schedule of Events

<http://meshomasichikingclub.org>

Ratings: A=very rough terrain, elevation gain over 1000 ft.; B=difficult terrain, elevation gain 500-1000 ft.; C=average terrain, moderate up and down; D=flat, little or no elevation change; E=exploratory, be prepared for anything; P=paddle; 1=fast; 2=brisk; 3=average; 4=slow

FOR THE ENJOYMENT AND SAFETY OF EVERYONE, PLEASE KNOW YOUR LIMITS AND HIKE TO YOUR ABILITY

Sunday, October 1, 9:30a - Devils Hopyard State Park, East Haddam: A roughly 7-mile hike featuring Chapman Falls and a terrific vista. Rating: B3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Chapman Falls parking lot (near the campground) off Foxtown Road. From intersection of Routes 156 and 82 near the East Haddam - Lyme town line, go east on 82 to Hopyard Road and turn left (north). Follow the signs to the state park. RSVP by 09/30 to John Fry at 860-978-8503. Co-leader Jeff Phelon 860-794-9739.

Tuesday, October 3, 9:00a - Gulf Road to Leesville Dam, East Hampton: A hike of between 5 and 7 miles adjacent to the Salmon River. Rating: D1. No kids or dogs. Sneakers are OK. Bring water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Covered Bridge parking lot on Comstock Bridge Road off Route 16 just west of the Salmon River in East Hampton. RSVP by 10/02 to Alan at 860-267-2799.

Wednesday, October 4, 9:00a - Bruckway-Hawthorne Preserve, Hadlyme: An 8-mile hike in a new preserve, including the Selden Creek Preserve and the Ravine Trail. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 10/03 to John at 860-342-0658.

Thursdays, October 5 through December 28, 9:00a - Hurd State Park, East Hampton: This hike happens each Thursday at the same location, but check with Chantal in case of a change. We do a 3.6-mile loop with a fairly steep climb of 300 feet at a good pace. We complete the loop at 10:30 am. Friendly, well-managed dogs are welcome. Rating: B2. No kids please. Hiking boots only. Bring drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Hurd Park winter parking lot at the intersection of Route 151 (Middle Haddam Road) and Hurd Park Road at the traffic light. From Route 66 in Cobalt, take Route 151 south for 2.5 miles. RSVP by the day prior to Chantal at 860-573-2946.

Saturday, October 7, 9:15a - McLean Game Refuge and Holcomb Farms, Granby: An energetic hike with a little bushwhacking to four waterfalls along 8 miles of western trails of McLean Game Refuge and Holcomb Farm. Joint hike with AMC. Co-led by Margaret Johansson, David Reik, and Jeff Phelon. Rating: B3. No kids or dogs. Hiking boots only. Bring food and plenty of water. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Holcomb Farm in Granby. From intersection of Routes 20 and 10 in Granby, head west on Route 20 for 2.6 miles. Turn left on Day Road, go 0.6 mile, then cross Simsbury Road into Holcomb Farm parking lot. There will be a car spot. RSVP by 10/06 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Saturday, October 7, 10:00a - Paddle on the Salmon River from Sunrise Resort State Park, East Haddam: A paddle of approximately 6 miles on the Salmon River near the Machimoodus State Park and on lower Pine Brook as well as lower Moodus River. After Labor Day through Columbus Day, kayak rentals are available at the launch site on weekends only. Call Quiet Kayak at 860-608-9384 to reserve. Rating: P3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Appropriate paddling gear including a PFD. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the paddle launch in Sunrise Resort State Park at the bottom of the hill. From the junction of Routes 66 and 151 in Cobalt, drive south on 151 for 6.5 miles or 0.9 miles south of the junction of Routes 151 and 196. Turn right into the park and follow the road down the hill. RSVP by 10/07 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Tuesday, October 10, 9:00a - Heublein Tower Hike, Simsbury: A hike of 5 to 7 miles in the Talcott Mountain State Park to the Heublein Tower. Rating: C1. No kids or dogs. Hiking boots only. Bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 9:00 am, OR at Penwood State Park lot off Route 185 in Simsbury just over the line from Bloomfield at 9:45 am. RSVP by 10/09 to Alan at 860-267-2799.

Wednesday, October 11, 9:00a - Shenipsit Trail, Glastonbury: An 8-mile hike on the blue-blazed trail in the vicinity of the Pine and Garnet Ledges. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Hemlock Grange parking lot on Sage Hollow Road, just east of the junction of Routes 17 and 17A Portland. RSVP by 10/10 to John at 860-342-0658.

Friday, October 13, 9:00a - Cockaponset Exploratory, Deep River: A 6-mile exploratory hike in the Spruce Ledges Block of the Cockaponset State Forest. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 10/12 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, October 14, 10:00a - Grayville Loop Hike, Hebron: We will follow the Orange Arrow trail through the back country of Salmon River State Forest for 7 miles. Featuring: Jeremy River, a long millpond, multiple ridges, and solitude, including lunch on a ledge. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot on Route 149 just south of Route 2, exit 16. Alternatively, from Route 16 in Westchester, take Route 149 north to the parking lot just before you get to Route 2. RSVP by 10/13 to Bob at 860-942-2505.

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Sunday, October 15, 10:00a - Harkness State Park / Oswegatchie Hills, Waterford / Niantic: Two hikes for one! What a deal! Begin with 3 to 4 gentle miles in Harkness State Park in Waterford. Tour the estate grounds with historical commentary, enjoy ocean views, wildlife sanctuary, open fields, and some beach walking. After lunch, there will be an optional second hike in Oswegatchie Hills, Niantic. That will be a hike of 3 to 4 miles in wooded, rolling terrain. We will caravan from Harkness to Veterans Memorial Field in Niantic. Rating: C3. Kids and leashed dogs OK. Hiking boots recommended for the second hike. Bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Harkness State Park lot. There is no admission fee. From I-95 exit 75, take Route 1 east (right turn from northbound I-95 exit 75) for 3.8 miles. Turn right on Avery Road. Cross Route 156 onto Route 213, driving 3.4 miles to the entrance to Harkness on the right. RSVP not required. For questions contact Laurette at laurettesaller@gmail.com.

Monday, October 16, 12:30p - "Home by Dinnertime" Paddle - Red Cedar Lake, Lebanon: A 3-mile paddle on a pretty lake with several islands and Mooween State Park on the islands and along one shore. Rating: P3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Appropriate paddling gear including a PFD. Bring drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton OR the boat launch on Camp Mooween Road at the northwestern end of the lake at 1:00 pm. RSVP by 10/16 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Wednesday, October 18, 9:00a - Boyd Woods with a Litchfield Town Stroll, Litchfield: A 6-mile walk in a town preserve. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 10/17 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, October 21, 9:30a - Chatfield Hollow Trail, Killingworth: A roughly 8-mile hike on scenic Chatfield Hollow Trail by scenic rock formations. Hike can be cut short by turning around and retracing steps on blue blazes at any time. Can you fit through the Fat Man's Squeeze? Some short, steep climbs are involved. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Chatfield Hollow S. P. hiker's lot on Route 80. From intersection of Routes 80 and 81 in Killingworth, drive west on Route 80 for 1.1 miles and take right into parking lot. RSVP by 10/20 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Sunday, October 22, 8:45a - Mattabesett and Connecting Trails, Middletown: This will be a 4- to 5-mile loop hike around a reservoir and up a hill top to view the fall foliage. Rating: C2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring snack and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 8:45 am OR at Nino's Pizza (formerly Tommy's Pizza) parking lot, 825 Saybrook Road at 9:00. RSVP by 10/21 to Steve at 860-301-8661 or sdck8@att.net.

Tuesday, October 24, 9:00a - Air Line State Park Trail, East Hampton: A 6- to 7-mile out and back hike on level ground of an old rail bed heading towards Colchester with a detour through the Middlesex Land Trust Sellew Preserve and Daly Road trail. Rating: D2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Sneakers are OK. Bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Cranberry Bog parking lot off Smith Street in East Hampton. Take Route 66 to Route 196 south (Summit Street) just east of East Hampton center. In 0.4 mile turn left on Flanders Road then the next right on Smith Street. The lot will be on the left immediately beyond the pond. RSVP by 10/23 to Alan at 860-267-2799.

Wednesday, October 25, 9:00a - Tyler Mill Preserve and Gouveia Winery, Wallingford: An 8-mile hike in a town preserve with a visit to a winery. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 10/24 to John at 860-342-0658.

Friday, October 27, 12:30p - "Home by Dinnertime" Paddle - Messerschmidt Pond, Westbrook: A 3-mile paddle on a pretty lake with several islands and Messerschmidt Pond Wildlife Area along the shore and on islands. Rating: P3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Appropriate paddling gear including a PFD. Bring drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 12:30 OR the boat launch on Stevenstown Road (Route 145) at 1:00 pm. Take Route 9 south to exit 5, turn right on Route 80 (west), then in 3.5 miles turn left on Route 145. The launch is 1.4 miles south on Route 145. RSVP by 10/27 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Saturday, October 28, 9:00a - Mount Lamentation, Meriden: A roughly 3-mile hike to great views from Mount Lamentation. Bail out or hike an additional 2 miles or so up and down Chauncey Peak. Rating: B3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the parking lot at Giuffrida Park off Westfield Road in Meriden. Take Bee Street north from East Main Street Meriden, or take Country Club Road west from I-91 exit 20 Middletown. Both become Westfield Road. RSVP by 10/27 to John Fry at 860-978-8503.

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Saturday, October 28, 2:00p - Walk in the Wangunk Boil-up, Portland: A 5-mile walk along the Connecticut River and in a meadow, followed by a campfire. Rating: D3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring campfire dinner and food to share. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Hemlock Grange parking lot on Sage Hollow Road, just east of the junction of Routes 17 and 17A Portland. RSVP by 10/27 to John at 860-342-0658.

Sunday, October 29, 10:00a - Escoheag Trail, Exeter, RI: Hike amid remarkable rock formations south of Stepstone Falls, Arcadia Wildlife Management Area. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot off Route 138 just west of I-395 exit 22 (old exit 85). RSVP by 10/28 to Bob at 860-942-2505.

Wednesday, November 1, 9:00a - Chestnut Hill Preserve, Lyme: An 8-mile hike through a land trust preserve and the Nehantic State Forest. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 10/31 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, November 4, 10:00a - Ross Cliffs / Old Furnace State Park, Killingly: A 4-mile hike to loop around Ross Pond and climb over Half Hill, with vistas north and east on town trails and a blue trail. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots recommended. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Old Furnace State Park lot. Form its intersection with I-395, take Route 6 east for ½ mile. Turn right on south frontage road, then right turn into the parking lot after a further ¼ mile. RSVP by 11/03 to Bob at 860-942-2505.

Wednesday, November 8, 9:00a - Duncan Preserve, East Haddam: A 6-mile hike in a land trust preserve with views of the Connecticut River followed by a stroll in scenic East Haddam Village center. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 11/07 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, November 11, 8:00a - Talcott Mountain and Penwood State Parks, Avon / Simsbury: This will be a 10- to 11-mile hike (with a chance to bail after 7 miles) with many ups, downs, and beautiful views. Rating: C2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Hemlock Grange parking lot on Sage Hollow Road, just east of the junction of Routes 17 and 17A Portland at 8:00 am OR at the Penwood State Park parking lot off Route 185 in Simsbury at 8:40 am. RSVP by 11/10 to Steve at 860-301-8661 or sdk8@att.net. It is necessary to RSVP for this hike.

Sunday, November 12, 9:30a - Whittaker and McCann Preserves, Sommers: A roughly 3-mile hike by brooks and interesting rock formations. Bail out or continue and hike similar distance in the next preserve. Possible post hike trip to Powder Hollow Brewery or Lu Lu's. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the McCann Preserve lot on Route 190. From I-91, take exit 47E. Follow Route 190 east to the intersection with Route 83. Continue farther on Route 190 for about a mile and take right into McCann Preserve (sign on a telephone pole). If you come to a blinking light at Gulf Road intersection, you have gone too far. RSVP by 11/11 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Wednesday, November 15, 8:00a - Appalachian Trail, Falls Village: A 10-mile hike between Routes 112 and 44. Rating: B3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 11/14 to John at 860-342-0658.

Friday, November 17, 9:00a - Cockaponset Exploratory, Chester: A 6-mile hike through the ledges of the Cedar Lake block of the Cockaponset State Forest. Rating: E3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 11/16 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, November 18, 10:00a - Skyline / Minnechaug Mountain, Hampden, MA: A 6-mile hike on a mysterious series of trails wandering a vast mountain on the Massachusetts border. Optional visit to the Powder Hollow Brewery. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the McDonald's parking lot on Route 190 in Enfield, about 0.3 mile east of I-91, exit 47E. RSVP by 11/17 to Bob at 860-942-2505.

Tuesday, November 21, 9:00a - Hurd Park Green Trail, East Hampton: A hike of approximately 6 miles on the green trail in Hurd State Park. Rating: D1. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots recommended. Bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Hurd Park winter parking lot at the intersection of Route 151 (Middle Haddam Road) and Hurd Park Road at the traffic light. From Route 66 in Cobalt, take Route 151 south for 2.5 miles. RSVP by 11/20 to Alan at 860-267-2799.

Wednesday, November 22, 9:00a - Air Line State Park Trail, East Hampton: An 8-mile hike on the new section of the Air Line. Rating: D3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 11/21 to John at 860-342-0658.

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Friday, November 24, 9:30a - Chatfield Hollow State Park, Killingworth: A roughly 6-mile hike in beautiful Chatfield Hollow State Park amid scenic rock formations. There is an option to bail out after 3 miles, if you are willing to road-walk back. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Chatfield Hollow S. P. hiker's lot on Route 80. From intersection of Routes 80 and 81 in Killingworth, drive west on Route 80 for 1.1 miles and take right into parking lot. RSVP by 11/23 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Saturday, November 25, 9:30a - Seven Falls State Park, Middletown: A roughly 7-mile hike to Bear Hill and back. See the Chinese Wall of Middletown. Rating: B3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Seven Falls parking lot. From Route 9 south, take exit 10, turn right at the light at end of the exit (Route 154, Saybrook Road), and meet at lot on left in ¾ of a mile. RSVP by 11/24 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Tuesday, November 28, 9:00a - Air Line State Park Trail, Colchester: A 6-mile out and back hike on level ground of an old rail bed heading east from Bull Hill parking area. We will come back via River Road. Rating: D1. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Sneakers are OK. Bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Bull Hill Rd parking area. From Route 16 in East Hampton turn onto Comstock Bridge Road by the covered bridge over the Salmon River. Follow the paved road for 1.1 miles then take the left fork onto Bull Hill Road. Do not take the dirt road on the right. Follow the road to the top of the steep hill. Parking will be on the left at the sharp curve to the right. RSVP by 11/28 to Alan at 860-267-2799.

Wednesday, November 29, 9:00a - Rose Farm Preserve, East Haddam: A hike of indeterminate length on wooded trails on a land trust preserve. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 11/28 to John at 860-342-0658.

***Thursday, November 30, 7:00p - Activities Planning Meeting, East Hampton:** Come join us to plan the hikes, paddles, and other activities of your club. Even if you are not ready to lead a trip, please come see what this planning is all about. Bring your ideas for club events. Go regardless of weather. Meet at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1 East High Street, East Hampton. Park in the lot (off Route 66) next to the church which is on the northeast corner of Route 66 (High Street) and Main Street, East Hampton. Enter by the back door adjacent to the parking lot. RSVP by 11/29 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Saturday, December 2, 1:00p - Longo Farm with Boil-up, Glastonbury: A 5-mile hike on the great rock shield, followed by a boil-up. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring campfire dinner and food to share. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Hemlock Grange parking lot on Sage Hollow Road, just east of the junction of Routes 17 and 17A Portland. RSVP by 12/01 to John at 860-342-0658.

Sunday, December 3, 9:00a - Hurd State Park, East Hampton: We will hike some familiar trails and maybe also some unfamiliar trails on this approximately 5-mile hike in this park. We will also hike to a viewpoint over the Connecticut River. Rating: C2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring snack and drink. Bad weather or deep snow cover cancels. Meet at the lot at Hurd State Park entrance at 9:00 am. From intersection of Routes 66 and 151 in Cobalt, drive south on Route 151 for 2.5 miles. At traffic light, take right onto Hurd Park Road and meet at entrance on the right in a half mile. Don't park at lot by traffic light. RSVP by 12/02 to Steve at 860-301-8661 or sdk8@att.net.

Wednesday, December 6, 9:00a - Battle Swamp and Raven Rock Preserves, Roxbury: An 8-mile hike along the Shepaug River and an old rail bed to the "dark tunnel" of Steep Rock. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 12/05 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, December 9, 10:00a - Nathan Hale State Forest, Coventry / Andover: Hike for 7 miles near the Nathan Hale homestead north of Coventry Lake. Optional visit to Bidwell Tavern. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot on Route 66 just west of its junction with Route 6 in Columbia. RSVP by 12/08 to Bob at 860-942-2505.

Wednesday, December 13, 9:00a - Hop River Trail, Andover: A hike of indeterminate length from the new bridge on Route 316 to Route 44 in Bolton Notch. Rating: D3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 12/12 to John at 860-342-0658.

Friday, December 15, 9:00a - Collie Brook Open Space Exploratory, East Hampton: A 6-mile hike in a town preserve. Rating: E3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 12/14 to John at 860-342-0658.

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Saturday, December 16, 8:30a - Ragged Mountain Plus, Berlin / Southington: This will be an 8-10 mi hike with many ups, downs, and beautiful views. Rating: C2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drink. Bad weather or deep snow cover cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 8:30 am OR at the Ragged Mountain parking lot on West Lane in Berlin at 8:55 am. West Lane is off Route 71A (Chamberlain Highway). RSVP by 12/15 to Steve at 860-301-8661 or sdk8@att.net.

Wednesday, December 20, 9:00a - Pequotsepos Brook Preserve, Groton: A hike of indeterminate length on the woodland trails of a land trust preserve. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 12/19 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, December 23, 9:15a - Case Mountain Park, Manchester: A roughly 5-mile hike to one of the best views in the state. Hike will be completed before lunch. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring snack and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Line Street parking lot. Directions: From intersection of Routes 94 and 83 in Glastonbury, go north on Route 83 for 2.3 miles. At Manchester / Glastonbury border (across from Shallowbrook Road), take right on Line Street and park on lot on left in 0.8 miles. Don't park in golf course lot. Alternatively, from I-384, take exit 3, turn left at light onto Route 83 south for 1.5 miles, crossing the reservoir causeway. Turn left onto Line Street and drive to the lot on the left in 0.8 miles. RSVP by 12/22 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Wednesday, December 27, 9:00a - Hansen Farm Park, North Haven: A 6-mile ridge walk with scenic views. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 12/26 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, December 30, 1:00p - Walden Preserve and Boil-up, Salem: A hike of indeterminate length on woods and meadow trails followed by a boil-up on Median Mountain of abandoned Route 11. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring campfire dinner and food to share. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 12/29 to John at 860-342-0658.

Monday, January 1, 10:30a - Gay City State Park, Hebron: Resolved: Start the New Year off with a hike! Catch up with old friends and meet some new ones. Hike 3 miles by streams, ponds and old foundations. Bail out after 3 miles or continue and hike similar distance. Roughly 6-mile total hike. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Gay City State Park lot on Route 85, 2.0 miles north of Route 94 in Hebron. RSVP by 12/31 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

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